



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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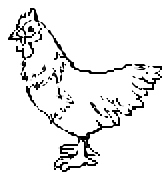
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Market News Branch



NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

In the Midwest and Northeast, trade sentiment was steady to firm, majority prices higher, but in the West and South, market was steady to barely steady at lower prices. Retail demand was slow to fair with limited features. Food service was light to fairly good, strongest for fast food promotions and catered holiday activities. Supplies were adequate to balanced for trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was light to fair. Breast items were in balance to well cleared, and dark meat and wings were at least adequate or available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at light to heavy, mostly desirable weights.

Final report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 12/09/02-12/14/02 (cents per lb)

AREAS	MAJORITY	US GRADE A (Includes branded product)		COMPOSITE	
		WTD AVG	LOADS	WTD AVG	LOADS
Bos/New Eng	51.00-53.00	52.36	11	54.64	23
Chicago	41.00-44.00	45.02	45	46.63	89
Cincinnati	TFEWR	—	—	49.63	18
Cleveland	TFEWR	—	—	61.18	7
Denver	65.50	65.48	14	64.94	17
Detroit	43.00-45.00	44.45	11	49.68	39
Los Angeles	66.00	64.51	56	61.44	115
New York	48.00-51.00	49.73	22	49.96	45
Philadelphia	48.50-51.00	49.36	11	46.80	22
Pittsburgh	49.00-52.00	49.91	11	53.05	58
St. Louis	44.50-45.00	44.12	22	45.86	42
San Francisco	66.50	65.48	30	64.54	85

Composite 12 City Weighted Average

Loads	12/09/02	Change/Last Wk	12/02/02	12/10/01
560	53.73	0.59	53.14	55.60

WOG BROILERS (without giblets) - prices paid per lb delvd to first receivers in trucklot and less than trucklot quantities.

REGIONS	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	LOADS
East	47.00-50.00	49.80	32
Central	44.00-53.00	49.44	69
West	45.00-60.50	54.37	48

Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent

Mississippi	56.00-60.50	60.15	83
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GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 61.25 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

LOADS	RANGE	MONDAY FINAL WTD AVG FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT
1,122	41.00-65.05	60.42

The Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed final weighted average prices on ice packed parts:

ITEM	WTD AVG (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	166.50	1,364
BREASTS - B/S	127.00	4,958
BREASTS - WHOLE	64.00	1,173
THIGH MEAT - B/S	54.00	926
LEG QUARTERS	18.00	9,381
WINGS	46.50	3,515

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYER Trucklot buying activity was light to fair at best entering the week as dealers attempted to gauge market conditions. Offerings ranged balanced to adequate for most immediate needs. Movement through retail and distributive channels was lackluster. The market tone was fully steady to firm. In the parts complex, breast items were in good balance. The remainder of cuts were at least sufficient.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was mixed, mostly steady. Demand following the weekend was moderate at best with most interest for retail ads, fast food promotions, and catering services. Supplies were more balanced for trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was fair. Breast items were in good supply to close, dark meat and wings were at least adequate or available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Final majority prices 1 cent lower compared with last week's levels. Reported trading for this week's deliveries at generally lower prices. Offerings were adequate on sized product and ample on heavy weights. Buying interest was seasonally moderate. Retailer demand was fair to fairly good. Dealers reported generally moderate weekend carryovers. Trading reported on parts for this week's delivery: leg quarter bulk 19-21.5 and 4/10s 21-21.5, drumstick 8/5s high 20s and bulk 22-24, bone in breast 68-78 and boneless 120-122, boneless leg meat 55-58 and boneless thigh meat low 60s. The Los Angeles negotiated weighted WOG average was 47.69 down 1.17 and the volume reported at 32 loads up 14 percent from last week.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYER Final majority prices increased into all areas, except Ohio was TFEWR from last Monday's final. Whole fryer market tone was steady to fully steady. Offers limited for the light to moderate buyer interest. Movement was slow to fair into retail channels; light to fairly good into food service, best for catering and fast food. Floor stocks adequate with some cutbacks on regular commitments noted in Ohio. Sizes desirable. Offerings of parts were sufficient for the light to fair at best trading. Trade sentiment was generally steady on all items.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was seasonally fair to moderate entering the week. Seller offerings ranged adequate to balanced for most immediate needs. Live supplies were moderate; weights varied in a full range of light to heavy. Processors schedules were light. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged to 1 cent higher at 51 to 63 cents. Trade sentiment was fully steady. In the parts complex, breast items were in good balance and well cleared. Other items were generally adequate.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARA.

U.S. GRADE A	
RANGE	47-66
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	53.45
NO. OF BOXES	9,031

*8 of 8 plants reporting.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying activity was light to fair entering the week as dealers cautiously assessed the market. Offerings of breast items were balanced. Dark meat cuts were at least adequate. Wings were available. Retail and distributive movement was seasonally sluggish. The market tone was at least steady on breast items, about steady on the balance.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND

ITEM	CURRENT NEGOTIATED TRADING	WTD AVG	VOLUME /LBS
BREAST - B/S	120-125	130.77	231,230
TENDERLOINS	100-105	103.27	59,160
BREAST - WITH RIBS	60-61	66.75	194,920
BREAST - LINE RUN	60	63.63	77,400
LEGS	31-32	31.64	149,280
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	17-18	18.05	370,776
DRUMSTICKS	21-22	26.04	85,750
THIGHS	20-21	30.40	42,380
B/S THIGHS	62-63	65.39	44,480
WINGS (WHOLE)	41-42	48.99	108,090
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.12	37,360
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	30.49	12,960
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	64.05	17,000

INCLUDES NEW YORK CITY METROPOLITAN AREA, NORTHERN NEW JERSEY, MASSACHUSETTS, CONNECTICUT, RHODE ISLAND, AND PENNSYLVANIA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ARKANSAS BROILER/FRYER PARTS F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	LBS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WT. AVG
BREAST - B/S	999	109.00-136.00	115-118	116.06
TENDERLOINS	124	103.00-158.00	-	122.17
BREAST - WITH RIBS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
FRONT HALVES	410	48.00-75.00	50-53	52.77
LEGS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	914	14.00-17.00	14	14.37
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	2,610	17.00-18.00	17	17.39
WINGS (WHOLE)	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	1,200	14.00-15.00	14-14.5	14.43

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATE	ACTUAL	AVG WTS	ACTUAL	AVG WTS
	12/09	12/05	12/05	12/02	11/28
ALA	4,167	3,983	5.07	4033	(A)
ARK	5,341	4,797	4.96	5186	Holiday
DELMARVA	1,966	2,119	5.26	2313	Holiday
KY-LA-TN	2,010	1,847	4.84	1989	Holiday
MISS	2,883	2,909	5.35	2748	Holiday
NC	2,634	1,637	5.75	2390	(A)
TEXAS	2,447	2,399	4.93	2433	(A)
TOTAL	21,448	19,691	5.12	21092	4.96
MON	21,448(B)			21092(B)	

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations

(B) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 09-Dec 2002 is estimated to be 32,089,000 up 1.38 percent from a week ago and up 3.54 percent from a year ago. (Last week 31,651,000 last year 30,991,000)

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	927	110.00-191.00	116-120	122.27
TENDERLOINS	152	105.00-179.00	110-115	123.24
BREAST - LINE RUN	118	62.00-66.00	62-65	63.49
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	88	21.00-33.00	-	22.09
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	391	13.00-18.00	13-14	14.32
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,531	15.00-24.00	18-19	18.80
WINGS (WHOLE)	281	41.00-49.00	44-47	47.19
WINGS (CUT)	369	55.00-59.00	56-58	56.71
DRUMSTICKS	68	33.00-46.00	-	34.53
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR DEC 09, 2002 — F.O.B. DOCK.

TODAY'S RANGE	5-DAY AVERAGE	AVERAGE
35.40 - 39.00	36.60	32.44

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYER ICE-PACKED POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES DELIVERED TO: IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, AND WI WEEK OF DEC-09-13-2002

CENTS PER POUND	Price Per Lb.	Mostly
BREAST - B/S	108.00 - 132.00	115.00 - 125.00
BREAST - LINE RUN	61.00 - 82.00	62.00 - 67.00
LEGS	25.00 - 37.00	-
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	16.00 - 20.00	17.00 - 19.00
DRUMSTICKS	21.00 - 29.00	-
THIGHS	16.00 - 29.00	-
WINGS (WHOLE)	35.00 - 55.00	43.00 - 45.00
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10.00 - 20.00	-
LIVERS	25.00 - 45.00	-
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40.00 - 42.50	-

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
WOGS 2# & UP - WHOLE	78-79
WOGS 2# & UP - CUT UP 8&9 PIECES	82-86
FROZEN HENS 5# & UP	
FROZEN DUCKS	
FROZEN SQUABS	589

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)

FRESH FRYERS	88-90
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-95
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	75-76
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK 92-93
	DRY PACK 96-101
ROASTERS 4# & UP	DRY PACK 113
	ICE PACK 104
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK
	ICE PACK 92-98
DUCKS	152-166

EASTERN REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE EASTERN REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

06-DEC-2002

CHICKEN — PRICES — VOLUME —
(Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

CHICKEN WITH SKIN ADDED — PRICES — VOLUME —
(Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	14.50-16.00	13.50-16.00	1,203,000	686,000
WTD AVERAGE	15.02	14.73		
15-20%				
RANGE	12.00-13.75	11.00-14.00	1,534,600	252,000
WTD AVERAGE	13.45	12.69		
20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

* INCLUDES THE STATES of CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

CENTRAL REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE CENTRAL REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

06-DEC-2002

CHICKEN — PRICES — VOLUME —
(Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

CHICKEN, WITH SKIN ADDED — PRICES — VOLUME —
(Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	13.00	61,200	-
WTD AVERAGE		13.00		
15-20%				
RANGE	11.00-13.00	10.00-13.00	890,800	163,200
WTD AVERAGE	12.00	10.96		
20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

* INCLUDES THE STATES of AL, AR, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, OK, OH, SD, TN, TX, WI

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate to occasionally good. Offerings were not as available as earlier but still about sufficient for trade needs. Processing schedules were normal to less than normal. Finished product supplies were clearing easily and some locations short of needs. The undertone was generally steady. HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER

THE WEEK OF 09-DEC-02.	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	5-9.5	8-8.5	8.16
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Prices were lower when compared to the past week. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings of spent hens. Finished sales were seasonally active. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER H E
WEEK OF 09-DEC-02

	RANGE CENTS/LB.	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	4.75-11.25	7.75-8.5	8.34

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

**USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS,
POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Grover T. Hunter
	Fax	(202)720-2403	(Chief)
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman
	Fax	(404)562-5875	(Officer-In-Charge)
Jackson, MS	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown
Des Moines, IA	Fax	(601)965-4661	(Southern States Area Supervisor)
	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins
Bell, CA	Fax	(515)284-4468	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
	Voice	(323)269-4154	Jim Derby
	Fax	(323)269-5926	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(323)260-4676	